

DROWNED IN NIAGARA RAPIDS

Youth Loses Life After a Brave
Struggle in Whirlpool.

FAILED TO HEED WARNING CRY

August Sporer Had Gone In Swimming
Above the Rapids and Was Caught
In the Swift Current Where Cap-
tain Webb, the English Swimmer,
Lost His Life.

August Sporer, an eighteen-year-old boy, of Niagara Falls, N. Y., went to his death in the Niagara whirlpool rapids, after a gallant battle with the giant waves between the lower bridges and the pool.

With three companions, Sporer went for a swim in the river at the former Maid of the Mist landing. He struck out at once for the middle of the stream and then turned toward the bridge. His companions called to him to turn back, for the current is very swift at that point, but he kept on down stream and was caught in the great sweep, the first break from the smoother waters to the rapids.

The boy struggled for a time against the current, but to no avail. Then, realizing that he was beyond human help and was to be carried through the rapids, which took the life of Captain Webb, and which have resisted every unaided human effort at passage, he deliberately turned down stream and began a grim fight for life.

Not in all the history of the river has such a brave effort been witnessed. Although but a frail boy, he went into the rapids, swimming strongly, and held his own until he struck the giant wave which curls up opposite the old battery elevator. Then he went under, and for a second was lost to sight of the score of people who stood on the lower arch bridge.

Again and again he disappeared, only to reappear, each time fighting desperately against the terrible current. Then, when within 300 yards of the whirlpool, his strength gave out and he sank and was lost to view. Even then he had swam perhaps 100 yards farther than did the great English swimmer, Captain Webb.

Milton, Del., Swept By Flames.

The town of Milton, in Sussex county, Del., about seven miles north-east of Georgetown, was visited by a destructive fire, of unknown origin. The fire started in the rear of Markel & Hartman's store, and practically destroyed the entire business section of the town. The loss is estimated at \$100,000.

The list of stores and other properties destroyed is as follows: Markel & Hartman, store; W. P. Starkey, store; Mason & Davidson, store; postoffice, C. A. Conner, store; Black & Lingo, store; Carey & Darby, store; J. H. Wells, meat store; Hall & Stevens, store; Mary E. Field, store; First National bank, Ponder house; W. H. Mears, barber shop and residence; J. B. Graham, residence; J. C. Clendaniels, meat and provisions; S. J. Wilson & Son, funeral directors. The burned section covers several blocks.

The town, which has a population of about 1000, has no fire protection, and people worked with buckets until the arrival of a fire engine from Lewes. But the spread of the flames was not checked until nearly the entire business section was in ashes. Most of the buildings destroyed were of frame.

Johnson and Jeffries Sign For Fight.

Articles of agreement for a fight between Jack Johnson and James J. Jeffries for the heavyweight championship of the world were signed in Chicago. The fight is to take place within eight months before the club offering the best inducements. All bids for the fight are to be in within sixty days.

Sam Berger, manager for James J. Jeffries; George Little, Johnson's manager, and Jack Johnson were present at the meeting when the articles were signed.

The agreement as signed calls for a fight of from 20 to 100 rounds for the heavyweight championship of the world. The division of the purse was left to the decision of Jeffries. It also provides that as a guarantee of good faith each of the parties to the agreement shall post \$5000 with Charles A. Comiskey, of Chicago, within seventy-two hours on the understanding that the \$5000 operate as a side bet on the contest.

Flames Sweep Steamer Lupaia.

The steamer Lupaia, lies at the Huskisson dock, seriously damaged, having been gutted from her funnels forward by fire, which broke out on board the steamer Saturday evening. The flames are supposed to have originated in the saloon kitchen.

The fire brigade of the vessel, with two powerful motor engines, turned out immediately at the first alarm and found the first saloon burning fiercely from end to end. Despite all their efforts the flames gradually worked forward until they reached the stern, consuming every particle of the woodwork there and then played havoc with the forehold.

Her upper part is considerably above water. The first saloon skylights were destroyed and the decks forward are badly buckled. Some of the plates of the hull were warped by

the heat. The repairs to the Lupaia will occupy considerable time.

Three Presidents to Meet.

Three presidents may meet in New Orleans on Mr. Taft's visit there, about Nov. 1. They are Messrs. Jose Dominguez de Obaldia, of Panama; General Jose Miguel Gomez, of Cuba, and William Howard Taft, of the United States.

There is now talk of inviting the executives of Panama and Cuba, and should they accept, the United States may show them the courtesy of placing a man-of-war at their disposal to bring them to this country and take them home.

It is deemed eminently appropriate by the officials that such a meeting take place, because of the interest this government has manifested in the two republics, and the occasion will afford an opportunity for a personal exchange of felicitations between the three executives, such as are to take place between President Taft and President Diaz at El Paso.

Found \$50,000 in Beggar's Hut.

After a terrific battle between four policemen and Peter Liebauch, an old hermit, inspectors of the North Side station in Pittsburgh, while they were searching the old man's hut, found the walls and furniture bulging with money. A trunk was filled with silver dollars, bottles and jars held smaller coins, bureau drawers were stuffed with bundles of bills.

In all the police found close to \$50,000, and when their search seemed to be ended they stumbled upon a wash-bottle filled to the brim with quarters, half dollars and dollars.

Liebauch was locked up and will be examined to determine the condition of his mind. He is thought to be demented. The money was hauled to the Farmers' National bank in a wagon, and so heavy was the load that the horse was stalled.

Van Sant Heads the G. A. R.

Samuel R. Van Sant, of Minnesota, was elected commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic at the encampment in Salt Lake City. Van Sant won over Judge William A. Keacham, of Indiana, by a vote of 887 to 156.

In addition to Commander Van Sant the following Grand Army officers were elected:

Senior vice commander, W. M. Bostaph, Ogden; Junior vice commander, Judge Alfred Beers, Bristol, Conn.; surgeon general, W. H. Lemon, Lawrence, Kan. Atlantic City was chosen for the encampment next year.

Thirty-five Horses Burned.

Thirty-five horses were roasted to death in a fire which destroyed the building of the Potter Express company in Camden, N. J.

The building was three stories high. The first floor held twenty-five delivery wagons, most of which were destroyed. A runway with a gradual incline led to the second floor, and the horses were stabled there. Frank Taines, a watchman, was on the stable floor, when he smelled smoke. He investigated and found flames shooting up the runway and cutting off all chances of escape for the horses. He was slightly burned leaping down the runway to give the alarm.

SNAKE RUNS SPINNING WHEEL.

Mrs. W. C. Grider, of Adair county, near Cambridgeville, Ky., was at tracted to her weaving room by the sound of her reel, and on opening the door she was horrified to see a large snake going around with the spinning wheel. When the reptile crawled on the wheel it started the wheel to running. The snake was unable to free itself, and a number of spectators witnessed the remarkable sight for nearly half a day. The snake was finally killed and measured five feet in length.

Beats Wright's Flight.

Charles F. Willard, the "pupil" of Glenn H. Curtiss, surpassed his predecessor's best cross country flight in the New York Aeronautic society's aeroplane, the Golden Flyer, at Mineola, L. I. More than that, the young aviator beat the Wright brothers' cross country record by ten miles, made recently at Fort Myer. Willard flew twelve miles in nineteen and a half minutes, and was forced by an accident to descend.

Wu Ting Fang Recalled.

Chinese Minister Wu Ting Fang has been recalled from Washington and ordered to Peking for further assignment. His successor will be Chang Yin Tang, formerly charge d'affaires at Madrid, and now deputy vice president of foreign affairs.

Mr. Wu is now in Peru, to which country he has been credited along with the United States.

\$20,000 Emerald Was \$80,000 Diamond.

Mrs. Claude Watney, who has one of the finest collections of gems in London, was recently presented with a jewel her husband had bought on the continent for \$20,000 as an emerald. When shown to an expert it proved to be a green diamond worth \$80,000.

Bermuda Onion Trust Formed.

The Bermuda onion growers of the Laredo, Texas, district have formed an organization to control the American onion market. Their onion crop this season sold for \$900,000. They say that their lack of organization enabled eastern buyers to depress prices.

Train Kills Man; He Saves Baby.

William Coates, watchman at a railroad crossing at Cedar Rapids, Ia., was instantly killed by a passenger train while saving the life of a four-year-old boy. He succeeded in throwing the boy out of danger.

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W. J. Hillsman

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HERALD AND N. Y. WORLD. \$1.60

X-RAY AS LEPROSY CURE

U. S. Quarantine Officer in Philippines

Makes Important Demonstration.

Washington, Aug. 18.—The X-ray as a cure for some cases of leprosy has been demonstrated by the American health authorities in the Philippines, according to Dr. Victor G. Heiser, chief quarantine officer in the islands.

Dr. Heiser in a report to Surgeon General Wyman, of the public health and marine hospital service, says the X-ray is suitable only for specially selected cases, and is valuable apparently only in the early stages. San Lazaro hospital, at Manila, was the first institution in the world to use the X-ray for leprosy treatment. Official figures show that on March 31, 1909, there were 2446 lepers in the Philippines, segregation having reduced by more than 1000 the number of cases during the past two years. At the beginning of the American occupation, eleven years ago, there were nearly 4000 lepers. Americans perfected the establishment for lepers in the island of Cullon in 1906. It is estimated that under the Spanish regime 700 new cases appeared every year. At the present time the new cases average 300 annually.

MISSING AXLETON

YOUNG GIRL FOUND

Tells Pitiful Story of Abuse at Hands of Foster Father.

Charleroi, Pa., Aug. 18.—Developments came thick and fast in the search for Annie Gates, seventeen years old, a foster daughter of F. G. Chambers, of Axleton, near here, who was supposed to have been kidnapped last week. The girl was found, seriously ill, at a home fifteen miles from her own, and told a story of abuse and ill-treatment, alleged to have been received at the hands of her foster father that caused his arrest later.

After leaving the Chambers' home, the girl became ill, but struggled onward, her only idea being to get as far as possible from the scene of her trouble. Finally, becoming entirely exhausted, she sought shelter at the home of J. A. Riggs, asking for work, saying the only payment desired was board and clothes. Mrs. Riggs, a former trained nurse, took care of the girl and called a physician, to whom the girl told her story. Her assertions of the indignities to which she was forced to submit were made known to the police, who immediately placed Chambers under arrest. Feeling here is strong against the man.

REAL WHITE WINGS HERE

Ohio Town Has a Flock of Ducks As

Street Cleaners.

Bellefontaine, O., Aug. 18.—The white wings of the town of Lakeview, near here, are literally white wings. They're ducks. Recently the finances of the village fell to such a low ebb that it was impossible to longer employ a street sweeping service, so that it was dispensed with. There remained a small sum in the treasury. One of the aldermen proposed that the money be invested in a flock of ducks, which would go through the streets and eat the rubbish.

Lean ducks were bought and turned loose. They started in at one end of the town early in the morning, and made their way to the other end, when they were turned backward or shifted to another street.

New Head of United States Nurses

Washington, Aug. 18.—Announcement is made here that President Taft has appointed Miss Jane A. Delano, of New York, to be superintendent of army nurses to fill the vacancy caused by the recent resignation of Miss D. H. Kinney. Miss Delano was formerly superintendent of nurses at the Bellevue hospital, New York, and is now president of the National Association of Nurses. She is spending the summer in Europe, and will assume the duties of the place early in September.

Girl Poisoned By Money.

New York, Aug. 18.—Miss Etta White is ill at her home in New Brunswick, suffering from poisoning, caused, it is supposed, by handling contaminated money. Miss White is cashier in a store and handles considerable cash each day. Some days ago the left side of her face was affected, and the physician who is attending her thinks she has been poisoned by some of the banknotes she handled.

To Have Aero Militia.

Jefferson City, Mo., Aug. 18.—Adjutant General Frank M. Rumbold, of the national guard of Missouri, has issued an order directing the organization of an aero detachment, which will be a part of the signal corps at St. Louis. Fifteen aeroplanes will be enlisted.

\$2500 Reward For Murderer.

Rochester, N. Y., Aug. 18.—The reward for the apprehension of the murderer of Miss Anna Schumacher, the seventeen-year-old girl who met her death at Holy Sepulchre cemetery ten days ago, was increased from \$500 to \$2500.

Colonel F. J. Fitzsimmons, Dead. Scranton, Aug. 18.—Colonel F. J. Fitzsimmons, prominent in state and local politics, died here after an illness of nearly a year. He was a member of the Lackawanna bar and was noted for his oratory. He was a Democrat.

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